Applicant:

Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0138

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Anthony F. MENNINGER

Title:

SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR A BULLETIN **BOARD FEATURE IN A SUPPLY CHAIN** MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Appl. No.:

09/815,463

Filing Date:

03/23/2001

Examiner:

Elaine L. Gort

Art Unit:

3627

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop NON-FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 28, 2004, Applicant hereby elects Group II (Claims 7-18), drawn to a system and computer program product for tracking a performance of suppliers for prosecution in the subject application in order to advance the prosecution of this application.

Applicant, of course, reserves the right to file a divisional application covering the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

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Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 26,874